



HIV Among Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM)

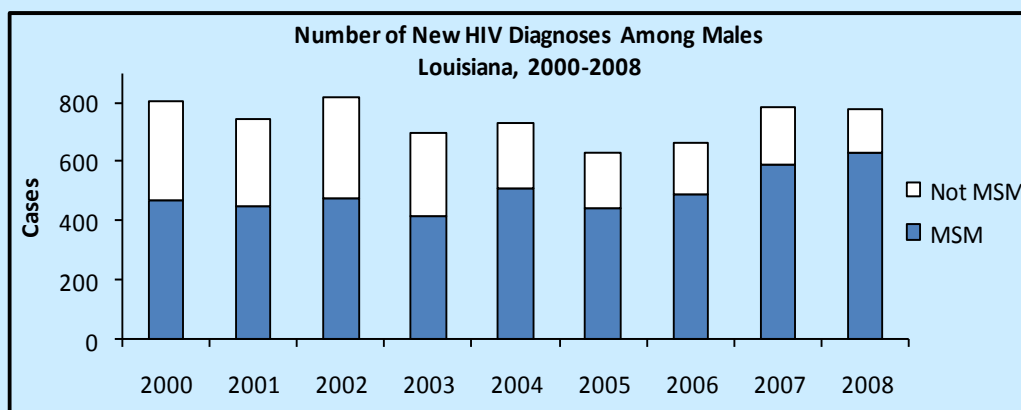
The term 'Men Who Have Sex with Men' (MSM) refers to all men who have sex with other men, regardless of how they identify themselves (gay, bisexual, or heterosexual).

United States

- ✂ MSM account for nearly half of the more than one million people living with HIV in the US (48%, or an estimated 532,000 total persons).
- ✂ MSM account for more than half of all new HIV infections in the US each year (53%, or an estimated 28,700 infections).
- ✂ While CDC estimates that MSM account for just 4 percent of the US male population age 13 and older, the rate of new HIV diagnoses among MSM in the US is more than 44 times that of other men (range: 522-989 per 100,000 vs. 12 per 100,000 other men).
- ✂ MSM is the only risk group in the US in which new HIV infections are increasing. While new infections have declined among both heterosexuals and injection drug user, the annual number of new HIV infections among MSM has been steadily increasing since the early 1990's.
- ✂ For African Americans, 51% of all males living with HIV infection had a transmission category of MSM. For whites males, 79% had a transmission category of MSM and for Hispanic/Latino males, 60% had a transmission category of MSM.

Louisiana

- ✂ In 2008, there were 1,168 new HIV diagnoses in Louisiana of which 633 (54%) were among MSM.
- ✂ Of the new HIV diagnoses in 2008, 780 (67%) were among males. Of the new male diagnoses, 633 (81%) were among MSM.



- ✂ The number of new MSM diagnoses among males has increased significantly in the past four years from 444 new MSM diagnoses in 2005 to 633 new diagnoses in 2008.
- ✂ From 2007 to 2008, there was a 7% increase in the number of new HIV diagnoses among MSM in Louisiana.



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Louisiana

Public Health Region	Total # of New HIV Diagnoses	# of MSM New HIV Diagnoses	% of New Diagnoses in the Region Among MSM
New Orleans	398	240	60%
Baton Rouge	296	127	43%
Houma	46	24	52%
Lafayette	79	46	58%
Lake Charles	62	34	55%
Alexandria	47	29	62%
Shreveport	119	69	58%
Monroe	57	32	56%
Hammond/Slidell	64	32	50%

- ✘ The New Orleans region had the greatest number of new diagnoses among MSM of all 9 public health regions. In New Orleans, 60% of all new diagnoses in 2008 were MSM.
- ✘ The Alexandria region had only 29 new HIV diagnoses among MSM, but those cases accounted for 62% of all new HIV diagnoses in the region.
- ✘ The Baton Rouge region had the second largest number of new diagnoses among MSM, but those cases accounted for only 43% of the new diagnoses.
- ✘ Of the 633 new diagnoses among MSM in 2008, 404 (64%) were black, 169 (27%) were white and 43 (7%) were Hispanic/Latino; 21% were between the age of 13-24, 32% between the age of 25-34, 22% between the age of 35-44, 17% between the age of 45-54, 7% between the age of 55-64, and 2% age 65 and above.
- ✘ Of all persons living with HIV infection at the end of 2008 in Louisiana, 45% were MSM.
- ✘ Of all males living with HIV infection at the end of 2008, 64% were MSM, and 12% were MSM/IDU. Of the MSM living with HIV infection in Louisiana at the end of 2008, 52% were black, 42% were white and 4% were Hispanic/Latino.
- ✘ Of the 633 MSM who were newly diagnosed with HIV in 2008, 24% were diagnosed with AIDS at the same time. An additional 10% were diagnosed with AIDS within 6 months of their HIV diagnosis. Since a large proportion of MSM are getting tested late, efforts have to be made to get these men tested as early as possible in their disease progression.
- ✘ The CDC recommends that all sexually active MSM be tested for HIV at least once a year and those who engage in high-risk behaviors be tested more frequently. Prevention efforts should aim to increase the number of MSM who are aware of their HIV status and reduce high risk behaviors.

For more information call the AIDS/STD Infoline at 1-800-99-AIDS-9 (1-800-992-4379) or visit www.HIV411.org.